(d) Public Sector OMCs are marketing various petroleum products through their 34,304 ROs located throughout the country to protect the interests of the consumers. They also plan to set up 1830 more ROs in the year 2008-09.

Statement

State-wise details of Commissioned ROs

Region	State	No. of ROs Commissioned
West	Gujarat.	246
	Madhya Pradesh	93
	Chhattisgarh	18
	Maharashtra	160
North	Punjab	78
	Haryana	46
	Himachal Pradesh	7
	Uttar Pradesh	132
	Uttarakhand	11
	Rajasthan	107
South	Tamil Nadu	95
	Karnataka	80
	Andhra Pradesh	129
	Kerala	44
East	West Bengal	49
	Assam	26
	Meghalaya	7
	Nagaland	1
	Bihar	25
	Jharkhand	35
	Orissa	42
	Tripura	1
	GRAND TOTAL:	1432

Agreement between NTPC and RIL

*569. SHRI AM AR SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) and National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) agreement for supply of natural gas to its power plants;

(b) whether RIL had abandoned the agreement reached with NTPC earlier, and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government to ensure that the agreement is honoured by both the companies?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLIDEORA): (a) to (c) In the year 2002, NTPC invited bids under International Competitive Bidding (ICB) route for procurement of gas @ 132 Trillion British Thermal Units (Tbtu) per annum for a period of 17 years. Many .leading national and international bidders participated in the bidding After the qualification process, the Request for Proposal (RFP) was issued in April, 2003.

M/s Reliance Industries Limited (RIL), who was the lowest bidder in the International Bidding, was issued a Letter of Intent (LOI). However, M/s RIL did not sign Gas Sale and Purchase Agreement (GSPA). National Thermal Power Cdrporation (NTPC) has filed a suit in the Bombay High Court against RIL for specific performance of the contract. The matter is *sub-judice*.

Contribution of Petroleum Sector to Government Exchequer

†*570. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an additional contribution of Rs. 35,000 crore is likely to be added to Government exchequer in the year 2007-08 due to increase in prices of crude oil in international market;

(b) if not, the estimate in this regard; and

(c) the total estimated amount likely to be deposited in Government exchequer from Petroleum sector through various taxes, cess, etc.?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA): (a) to (c) The contribution of petroleum sector to the Central and State Governments during 2006-07 and estimates for 2007-08 are as given below:—

{Rs. in Crores)

Contribution to Exchequer Contribution to Exchequer 2006-07		2007-08 (Prov. & Estimated)
Central Exchequer		12625
Customs Duty	10043	
Cess	6899	6808
Excise Duty	51922	54769
Royalty	2794	3455
Corporate Tax	12153	16431
Dividend	7963	5110
Tax on Dividend	1362	1314
Others (includes service tax)	666	992
Sub Total	**93802**	**101504**
Sales Tax	53949	55677
Royalties	3568	3761
Others	2438	3028
Sub-Total	**59955**	**62466**
Total Contribution	153757	163970

NOTE : Data for 2007-08 is provisional.

The contribution of petroleum sector to the Central Government during 2007-08 has been estimated to be higher by Rs. 7702 crore over that of 2006-07.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.